

Mission

To serve the community by enforcing land development and building construction regulations. This is achieved by empowering a responsive and well trained staff to provide efficient and effective services, customer education and guidance and consistent and accurate information.

Focus

Land Development Services (LDS) is comprised of Site Development Services (SDS), which is included in the Community Development Program Area, and Building Code Services (BCS), which is included in the Public Safety Program Area. LDS enforces public safety and environmental protection standards, and oversees the development of sound infrastructure to support the community. SDS reviews all site and subdivision plans and inspects site development; BCS is responsible for the plan review, permitting and inspection of new and existing buildings.

In addition, LDS, in conjunction with the Business Support Services' Training Center, provides technical training and conducts customer outreach programs to help property owners, builders and contractors comply with land development and building code regulations.

In order to more closely align LDS with the structures of the other Department of Public Works and Environmental Services' (DPWES) Lines of Business and to create a less hierarchical organization, Business Support Services is transferred to LDS. The administrative responsibilities of Business Support Services include Human Resources, Systems Administration and Financial Management. An independent committee of DPWES employees was asked to examine the current DPWES business alignment and determine the appropriateness of such alignments. The committee recommended, and senior management concurred, that LDS would be better served if these administrative branches were a part of LDS since they primarily support LDS.

THINKING STRATEGICALLY

Strategic challenges for the Department include:

- Developing a program to improve customers' awareness of services and regulations;
- o Monitoring processes to identify changes resulting in greater efficiency;
- Developing quality control processes to insure greater compliance with regulations; and
- o Utilizing the newest technologies to provide improved customer service.

Business Support Services' Economic indicators all point to a slower growth in large new commercial projects and an increase in revitalization and single lot (in-fill) projects in coming years in Fairfax County. The type and number of applications being processed substantiate this. This evolution in development will require more time and staff resources per project, and possibly staff with a different skill set to review and inspect. In-fill lot and revitalization projects are more complex in nature: the erosion and sedimentation issues, deficient infrastructure and the need to minimize impacts on adjoining property owners are continuously challenging County staff, design engineers and developers.

New Initiatives and Recent Accomplishments in Support of the Fairfax County Vision

Maintaining Safe and Caring Communities	Recent Success	FY 2005 Initiative	Cost Center
In response to an earth slide that threatened townhouses, collaborated with other County, state and outside agencies (VDOT, Cox Cable) and private engineers to stabilize the slope and address potential electric and gas line failures, thus helping avoid forced evacuation of the townhouse occupants.	ð		Agencywide
Joined with other jurisdictions in objecting to a proposed statewide Elevator Safety Act that would have eliminated local authority to continue existing elevator and escalator inspection programs. Supported the establishment of and participated as the statewide representative of the Virginia Building and Code Official Administrators (VBCOA) in an Elevator Study Group under the Virginia Housing Commission to evaluate the proposed legislation. The revised legislative proposal preserves local authority for conducting and/or regulating elevator and escalator safety inspections, and will enhance safety by establishing certification and training standards for elevator mechanics.		ð	Building Code Services
Building Livable Spaces	Recent Success	FY 2005 Initiative	Cost Center
Collaborated with the "Christmas in April" managers to promote the safety of lay participants involved in on-site repair and reconstruction of low-income homes through training in safety-conscious work techniques and procedures.	lacktriangle	ð	Building Code Services
Currently collaborating with other County agencies to develop a better tracking system to assure proffer compliance.		ð	Agencywide

Connecting People and Places	Recent Success	FY 2005 Initiative	Cost Center
LDS continues to promote building safety by displaying a full-scale model house to illustrate proper construction methods at the Celebrate Fairfax Fair and by staffing, during Building Safety Week, outreach booths at local building supply stores. These booths are jointly staffed with other government jurisdictions. At the FY 2005 County Fair, BCS plans to obtain a fuel cell, capable of providing adequate power to operate the full-scale model house.		Ĭ	Building Code Services
LDS continues to leverage technology to provide information. In FY 2003, applications were developed which allow customers to access plan review and residential inspection comments via the Internet. In FY 2005, LDS plans to expand access to information on the Internet by adding the bonding, grading and waiver components to the LDS network system.		ð	Agencywide
Urban Forestry is currently mapping the natural vegetation communities in the County. These maps will assist citizens and organizations in the identification of potential forest, wildlife habitat and riparian restoration projects. This effort will also provide baseline inventory data that is prerequisite to the current multi-agency efforts to formulate a Countywide natural resource management plan. Staff expects to complete this project in FY 2005.		ď	Site Development Services
Maintaining Healthy Economies	Recent Success	FY 2005 Initiative	Cost Center
BCS staff participated in public meetings held by the Virginia Housing Study Commission and supported their findings during the most recent Legislative Session. This endeavor provides a means of removing defective building products from the market place more rapidly than the process provided for in the past, greatly enhancing consumer protection.	ð		Building Code Services
BCS staff chaired a nationwide fuel cell technology task force, comprised of representatives of the National Hydrogen Association, the Federal Department of Energy, industry experts and code officials. The task force identified regulatory changes that must be made to encourage general acceptance of this emerging energy technology.	A		Building Code Services

Practicing Environmental Stewardship	Recent Success	FY 2005 Initiative	Cost Center
Conducted erosion and sediment (E&S) control forums in FY 2003 with industry representatives, to enhance stakeholders' knowledge of federal, state and County environmental regulations and expectations. Planning to conduct a seminar on E&S control for the Fairfax County School construction staff and their contractors in FY 2005.	ð	ð	Site Development Services
Prepared extensive amendments to the Fairfax County Code in response to changes to the state's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations. These amendments enhance environmental protection by expanding the designated Resource Protection Areas in the County, changing the review criteria and procedures for requesting waivers and exceptions to the County's ordinance and allow for the designation of Intensely Developed Areas (IDA's) in certain areas of the County. The IDA public hearings have been authorized for later in FY 2004.	Ĭ		Site Development Services
Completed a Countywide tree cover analysis, using satellite imagery, that demonstrates that in 2000 approximately 45 percent of Fairfax County's 235,000 acres was covered with tree canopy. A comparison of the 2000 analysis with 1995 tree cover levels demonstrates that relatively large tracts of native forest tracts were removed during land development; however, the canopy of trees that were planted in new developments and established neighborhoods expanded, offsetting the loss of native tree canopy. This is projected to be an ongoing grant program.	ď	ď	Site Development Services
Creating a Culture of Engagement	Recent Success	FY 2005 Initiative	Cost Center
Developed an informational brochure to provide guidance to homeowner associations on maintenance of detention ponds, along with associated plan and permit requirements. Updated the Fairfax County Special Inspections Manual for conformance with the new International Building Code. Manual will be updated as regulations change.	₫	₫	Land Development Services
Conducted educational presentations to the Great Falls Citizens Association and McLean Citizens Association respectively to build alliances with community groups. The presentations provided a better understanding within the community of Site Development's role in Code enforcement.	ð		Site Development Services
Coordinated with the Department of Tax Administration to develop an information program for new contractors/contracting businesses informing them of their obligations under state and County laws.	lacksquare		Site Development Services

Budget and Staff Resources 🎁 🛍 🖺 🖾 🗭





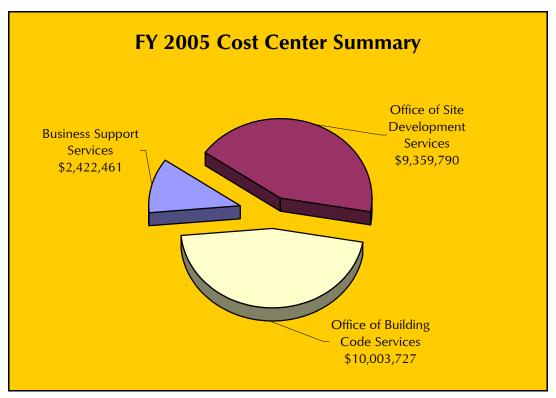




Agency Summary							
Category	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2004 Revised Budget Plan	FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan	FY 2005 Adopted Budget Plan		
Authorized Positions/Staff Years							
Regular	296/ 296	278/ 278	280/ 280	308/ 308	309/ 309		
Expenditures:							
Personnel Services	\$14,920,750	\$16,068,730	\$15,599,230	\$18,688,639	\$18,688,639		
Operating Expenses	3,803,902	3,158,956	3,925,703	3,333,535	3,333,535		
Capital Equipment	0	0	21,949	0	0		
Subtotal	\$18,724,652	\$19,227,686	\$19,546,882	\$22,022,174	\$22,022,174		
Less:							
Recovered Costs	(\$44,971)	(\$50,338)	(\$50,338)	(\$165,954)	(\$236,196)		
Total Expenditures	\$18,679,681	\$19,177,348	\$19,496,544	\$21,856,220	\$21,785,978		
Income:							
Permits/Plan Fees	\$9,192,870	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705		
Permits/Inspection Fees	13,145,186	12,421,055	12,396,703	12,397,081	12,397,081		
Total Income	\$22,338,056	\$21,067,760	\$21,043,408	\$21,043,786	\$21,043,786		
Net Cost to the County	(\$3,658,375)	(\$1,890,412)	(\$1,546,864)	\$812,434	\$742,192		

Community Development Program Area Summary							
Category	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2004 Revised Budget Plan	FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan	FY 2005 Adopted Budget Plan		
Authorized Positions/Staff Years							
Regular	136/ 136	128/ 128	130/ 130	159/ 159	159/ 159		
Expenditures:							
Personnel Services	\$7,254,005	\$7,948,144	\$7,704,274	\$10,252,568	\$10,252,568		
Operating Expenses	1,666,906	1,332,568	1,742,954	1,765,879	1,765,879		
Capital Equipment	0	0	6,949	0	0		
Subtotal	\$8,920,911	\$9,280,712	\$9,454,177	\$12,018,447	\$12,018,447		
Less:							
Recovered Costs	(\$44,971)	(\$50,338)	(\$50,338)	(\$165,954)	(\$236,196)		
Total Expenditures	\$8,875,940	\$9,230,374	\$9,403,839	\$11,852,493	\$11,782,251		
Income:							
Permits/Plan Fees	\$9,192,870	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705		
Total Income	\$9,192,870	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705	\$8,646,705		
Net Cost to the County	(\$316,930)	\$583,669	<i>\$757,</i> 134	\$3,205,788	\$3,135,546		

Cost Centers



			Position Summary		
	Technical Planning and Analysis		Environmental and Facilities		Human Resources Branch
1	Director		<u>Inspections</u>	1	Management Analyst IV (1)
1	Deputy Director	1	Engineer IV	1	Management Analyst II (1)
2	Management Analysts III	4	Engineers III	4	Training Specialists III (4)
1	Engineer IV	2	Engineering Technicians III	1	Training Specialist II (1)
2	Engineers III	6	Engineering Technicians II	1	Administrative Assistant V (1)
1	Engineer II	6	Supervising Engineering Inspectors	2	Administrative Assistants IV (2)
2	Management Analysts II	1	Asst. Super. Engineering Inspector		
1	Administrative Assistant III	35	Sr. Engineering Inspectors		Systems Administration Branch
1	Administrative Assistant II	1	Code Enforcement Chief	1	Info Tech. Program Manager II (1)
		1	Code Coordinator III	1	Info Tech. Program Manager I (1)
	Environmental and Facilities	2	Code Coordinators II	1	Programmer Analyst III (1)
	<u>Review</u>	1	Administrative Assistant III	2	Programmer Analysts II (2)
3	Engineers IV	3	Administrative Assistants II	2	Network/Telecom. Analysts II (2)
10	Engineers III			1	Data Analyst II (1)
19	Engineers II		<u>Urban Forestry</u>		
1	Sr. Engineering Inspector	1	Urban Forester IV		Financial Management Branch
1	Engineering Technician III	1	Urban Forester III	1	Management Analyst IV (1)
7	Engineering Technicians II	7	Urban Foresters II	1	Management Analyst III (1)
1	Administrative Assistant IV			1	Management Analyst II (1)
2	Administrative Assistants III			2	Administrative Assistants V (2)
2	Administrative Assistants II			4	Administrative Assistants III (4)
				2	Administrative Assistants II (2)
TO	TAL POSITIONS		() De	notes T	ransferred Positions
_	TAL POSITIONS Positions / 159.0 Staff Years		() De	notes T	ransferred Positions

FY 2005 Funding Adjustments

The following funding adjustments from the FY 2004 Revised Budget Plan are necessary to support the FY 2005 program:

♦ Employee Compensation

\$319,925

An increase of \$319,925 in Personnel Services primarily associated with salary adjustments necessary to support the County's compensation program.

♦ Work Force Reorganization

\$2,381,736

An increase of \$2,381,736 primarily associated with the FY 2005 work force reorganization that transfers 29/29.0 SYE positions to Land Development Services from Business Planning and Support including funding for the FY 2004 transfer of 1/1.0 SYE Management Analyst III position to Land Development from Business Planning and Support. These positions are transferred to more accurately reflect the central support provided to all DPWES agencies and the functions performed by staff within Land Development Services. As part of the previous DPWES reorganization, the Business Support Services branch was placed under the Director's office. However most of the staff provided specialized support services to the Land Development Services business area in the areas of human resources, systems administration, and financial management.

♦ Miscellaneous Expenses and Recovered Costs

(\$341,985)

A decrease of \$341,985 primarily associated with encumbrances carried over from FY 2003 for plan review and inspection of escalators/elevators, replacement of microfiche file cabinets, an engineering copier, and a coin-operated copier for public use, and by adjustments for recovered costs as well as decreases in Information Technology charges and Department of Vehicle Services charges based on anticipated requirements in FY 2005.

Board of Supervisors' Adjustments

The following funding adjustments reflect all changes to the <u>FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan</u>, as approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 26, 2004:

♦ Increased Recovered Costs

(\$70,242)

An increase of \$70,242 based on revised estimates for payroll and administrative assistance provided by the Land Development Services staff to the Solid Waste and Wastewater Treatment funds.

Changes to FY 2004 Adopted Budget Plan

The following funding adjustments reflect all approved changes in the FY 2004 Revised Budget Plan since passage of the FY 2004 Adopted Budget Plan. Included are all adjustments made as part of the FY 2003 Carryover Review and all other approved changes through December 31, 2003:

♦ Carryover Adjustments

\$319,196

As part of the FY 2003 Carryover Review, encumbered carryover in the amount of \$319,196 was provided primarily for planning and inspection of escalators/elevators, replacement of microfiche file cabinets, an engineering copier and a coin-operated copier for public use.

♦ Position Adjustments

\$0

A Management Analyst III position is transferred from Business Planning and Support to Land Development Services to assist with code amendments analysis, as well as policy coordination. Funding will be transferred as part of the FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan.

The following funding adjustments reflect all approved changes to the FY 2004 Revised Budget Plan from January 1, 2004 through April 19, 2004. Included are all adjustments made as part of the FY 2004 Third Quarter Review:

♦ Program and Procedures Coordinator

\$0

A position is abolished in Wastewater Treatment Division in order to establish the Program and Procedures Coordinator in Land Development Services. This position will assist the Deputy County Executive in planning, implementing and coordinating Department of Public Works projects crossing multiple departmental boundaries throughout the County.

Key Performance Measures

Goal

The goal of Site Development Services (SDS) cost center is to help developers, engineers and County citizens protect the integrity of public facilities in the County and provide flood, zoning and tree cover protection by:

- Reviewing and inspecting engineered land development plans and projects for conformance with federal, state and local ordinances as well as Board of Supervisors' policies.
- Providing financial protection to the County taxpayers by ensuring satisfactory completion of site improvements on private land development projects through the process of bonds and agreements.
- Investigating and assisting in the prosecution of building code and erosion and sediment control violations, unpermitted work, unlicensed contractors and illegal dumping issues.
- Providing leadership, coordination and support to the SDS divisions to ensure consistent and expeditious service to the development community.
- ♦ Identifying and coordinating amendments to the County code and Public Facilities Manual (PFM) and responding to code and PFM interpretation requests.

Objectives

- ♦ To issue at least 85 percent of new agreements, amendments, and releases within target timeframes, while resolving default situations so that less than one percent of defaults are deemed irresolvable and must be completed by the County.
- To review site and subdivision-related plans within target timeframes, while continuing to identify potential deficiencies in proposed development projects so that none of the development projects cease construction as a result of these deficiencies.
- ♦ To resolve violation issues through investigation and mediation so that 100 percent of court cases are decided in the County's favor.

	Prior Year Actuals			Current Estimate	Future Estimate
Indicator	FY 2001 Actual			FY 2004	FY 2005
Output:					
Bonded projects at year-end	1,342	1,344	1,344 / 1,320	1,320	1,320
Site and subdivision reviews completed	505	504	504 / 439	439	414
Minor plans and special studies completed	3,783	3,693	3,693 / 3,523	3,523	3,319
Code violation complaints received	1,552	1,167	1,167 / 1,131	1,131	1,131
Efficiency:					
Bonded projects per staff	134	134	134 / 132	132	132
Plan reviews completed per reviewer	322	300	300 / 248	248	234
Service Quality:					
Percent of new agreements processed within 6 days	85%	85%	85% / 85%	85%	85%
Average days to review a major plan	51	49	50 / 50	50	50
Percent of Code violation complaints assigned within 24 hours	96%	96%	96% / 98%	96%	96%
Outcome:					
Percent of projects in irresolvable default which must be completed by the County	1%	1%	0% / 1%	1%	1%
Construction projects required to cease as a result of deficiencies identifiable on the	0	0	0 / 0	0	0
plan Percent of court cases decided	U	Ü	0 / 0	0	U
in the County's favor	100%	100%	100% / 100%	100%	100%

Performance Measurement Results

The Land Development Services (LDS) mission is to enforce land development and building construction regulations. Specifically, staff monitors these activities for compliance with state and County codes. The performance measures - plans reviewed, projects bonded, permits issued, inspections performed and violations processed - are directly linked to land development activities.

In FY 2003, LDS was able to meet its goal of a 50-day average to process plans. SDS continues to maintain a high level of service in the bonding section, continually meeting the goal of processing agreements within six days.

The goal of performing 96 percent of inspections on the day requested was met overall, with the Commercial Inspections Division exceeding the goal (100.0 percent) and the Residential Inspections Division (RID) coming within one percent (95 percent), itself a four percent improvement for RID over FY 2004. Both divisions were able to achieve these high percentages in large part because of the increase in the number of master inspectors in the two divisions, the re-distribution of assignments between the commercial and residential inspections' divisions in response to fluctuations in workload and the increased reliance on certifications from permit holders for selected inspections. Public safety is not undermined since none of the certified inspections are life safety issues. In addition, photographic evidence of inspection is required and quality control is assured by spot checks of completed certifications by supervising inspectors.

Objectives

- ♦ To provide inspection service on the day requested 96.0 percent of the time, while ensuring that 0.0 percent of buildings experience catastrophic failure as a result of faulty design.
- ♦ To issue not less than 60.0 percent of building permits on the day of application, while ensuring that 0.0 percent of buildings experience catastrophic failure as a result of faulty design.

	Prior Year Actuals			Current Estimate	Future Estimate	
Indicator	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Estimate/Actual	FY 2004	FY 2005	
Output:						
Building inspections	275,022	261,811	261,811 / 222,546	222,546	222,546	
Permits issued	82,911	82,100	82,100 / 78,078	78,078	73,549	
Efficiency:						
Inspections completed per inspector	3,986	3,794	4,091 / 3,477	3,709	3,709	
Permits issued per technician	6,906	6,842	7,464 / 7,098	7,098	6,686	
Service Quality:						
Percent of inspections completed on requested day	96%	93%	96% / 96%	96%	96%	
Outcome:						
Percent of buildings experiencing catastrophic system failures as a result of building design	0%	0%	0% / 0%	0%	0%	
Percent of permits issued on day of application	58%	58%	60% / 59%	60%	60%	